

TABE Information

Even Start State Adult Outcomes Regarding the TABE

Local Even Start projects will report to the MDE on each of the academic areas in which the adult participants have or are currently receiving instruction.

At the end of six months from program intake and each subsequent six month period, 80 percent of the Even Start adult participants will demonstrate growth/change in all of the basic skill areas by pre-and post-test scores using TABE.

- The TABE should be administered upon program entry.
- Participants should be re-TABE'd every six months in all three areas: reading, math, and language (not just the area in which they were instructed) to allow for up-to-date information that will drive instruction over the next six months.
- This Outcome asks that 80 percent demonstrate growth/change in **ALL** basic skill areas.
- CHANGE means positive change and any amount of change unless otherwise stated.

At the end of six months from program intake, a minimum of 50 percent of the adult participants will demonstrate a growth/change in one of the basic skill areas in which they have enrolled—reading, mathematics (numeracy, problem solving), writing (language), by a minimum of 1.0 grade level as evidenced by pre- and post-test scores of the TABE.

- Fifty percent of those enrolled for six months will show an increase of 1.0 grade level in the area **in which they are instructed**.
- The confusion seems to be about what skill is measured by which portion of the TABE. We are responsible for giving the following subtests: READING (test 1), MATH (Computation, test 2, and Applied Math, test 3), and LANGUAGE (test 4 only). Use READING for reading, MATHEMATICS COMPUTATION and APPLIED MATHEMATICS for math, and LANGUAGE (test 4) for writing.
- Record areas of instruction.
- Questions have come up on how to show improvement when a student's pre-test is 12.9 in an area, the answer is **they can't**. Remember, we are to be taking those with the greatest of need. This doesn't mean they can't or won't receive instruction in that area, they just won't show improvement. I would concentrate instruction on areas where improvement can be shown.

Relationship of TABE to the 2002 GED TESTS

- Even Start has chosen to use the TABE to measure growth in the areas of READING, MATH, and LANGUAGE because of the close relationship of the TABE to the GED. TABE is not used for Even Start instruction but to show measurement of growth.
- As of July 2005, we all should be using Forms 9 and 10.
- Even though Forms 7, 8, 9, and 10 are considered parallel, Forms 9 and 10 are correlated to the 2002 GED. Don't be surprised and don't panic if you have pre-tested using Form 7 or 8 and posted with a 9, your scores will likely decrease rather than increase. This is due to the higher level thinking on the new GED. With proper instruction they will increase in another six months ☺.

The TABE: What and How to Administer

- **Locator:** The locator is not required, but will help to determine which level of the TABE to administer to a particular student. It is untimed, but plan on 30 minutes to complete. If you do give the locator, it only needs to be given **one time**, don't repeat it each time you give the TABE.
- In Even Start we are only responsible for **grade equivalent score** in the four areas of READING, MATHEMATICS APPLICATION, MATHEMATICS COMPUTATION, and LANGUAGE using the **SURVEY** edition.
- There are five levels of the Survey, but all items have been placed on the same scale, resulting in statistically comparable test scores. Grade levels go from 1.6 to 12.9.
- Unless you have a very low-skilled student, I would use the M or D whenever possible. I also would use the same level for all four areas. The results should be comparable.
- Generally, educators administer different forms of the TABE at the same level when pre-testing and post-testing. However, if a student pre-tests near the top of the range, you may choose to use the next higher level of the TABE. This type of multi-level testing will yield valid results because all levels of the test are on the same scale. (Remember, it only goes up to a 12.9).
- TABE can be given individually or in a group.
- The **Norms Book** gives the directions for administering the TABE.
- The **Norms Book** gives the conversion of raw scores to the grade equivalent scores.
- Use the chart on p. 76 in the Norms Book to get the combined math grade equivalent.

I hope this information helps and that all your test scores go up, up, up!